UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

FROM : W. A. Branigan

1 - Mr. Bishop
1 - Mr. Wick
1 - Mr. Felt
1 - Mr. Rosen

DATE March 2, 1967

1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Branigan
1 - Mr. Lenihan

REC 13

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY
NOVEMBER 22, 1963, DALLAS, TEXAS

News media during the evening of March 1, 1967, reported the arrest of Clay Shaw, 54 years old, the former managing director of the International Trade Mart in New Orleans, Louisiana, that date. According to United Press International, District Attorney Garrison arrested Shaw in his investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy and booked him on a charge of "conspiracy to commit murder."

According to the news media, Shaw spent some time in New York City where he was engaged in advertising and public relations work. During World War II he reportedly served in the United States Army in Europe attaining the rank of major. He received the Croix de Guerre of France and the Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star from the United States. Following the war, he returned to New Orleans in 1946 at which time he became managing director of the International Trade Mart. He resigned this position in August, 1965. He is currently engaged in the remodeling and sale of real property in the French Quarter of New Orleans.

A check of our files disclosed that we received allegations as early as 1954 that Shaw was a homosexual. [redacted] advised on [redacted] 1964, that he has had relations of a homosexual nature with Clay Shaw. The informant described Shaw as a brilliant and powerful man, given to sadism and masochism in his homosexual activities. On February 24, 1967, we received information from [redacted] Managing Director, Metropolitan Crime Commission, New Orleans, and from [redacted] that information available to them led them to believe Shaw has homosexual tendencies.

REC 13

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On February 24, 1967, we received information from [redacted] and from [redacted] that Clay Shaw is identical with an individual by the name of Clay Bertrand who allegedly was in contact with Dean Andrews, New Orleans Attorney, in connection with Lee Harvey Oswald, the facts of which are as follows:

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WAB:RLS

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Memorandum to Mr. W. C. Sullivan
RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY
62-109060

On November 25, 1963, Mr. Andrews informed Agents of our New Orleans Office that he had met Lee Harvey Oswald in late June, 1963, at which time Oswald appeared at his office with several individuals who impressed him as being homosexuals. Andrews claimed that Oswald requested assistance in making inquiries concerning his bad conduct discharge from the United States Marine Corps. Andrews also indicated that Oswald asked him questions concerning the citizenship status of he and his wife.

Andrews further stated that on the evening of November 23, 1963, at which time he was in the hospital in New Orleans under heavy sedation, he received a telephone call from an individual who said his name was Clay Bertrand who asked him if he would be interested in handling the defense of Lee Harvey Oswald in Dallas, Texas, for the murder of President Kennedy.

We conducted extensive investigation concerning the data furnished by Andrews and could find no supporting evidence that Lee Harvey Oswald had ever visited Andrews' office. There was no record of Oswald in Andrews' files and his secretary could not recall Oswald ever having been to the office. In addition, we determined from Andrews' doctor that during the period Andrews was in the hospital he was under extreme sedation and he did not believe Andrews was capable of using a telephone on November 23, 1963. Andrews was questioned again on December 3, 1963, concerning his alleged association with Lee Harvey Oswald and Andrews stated after considering the facts in discussions with his office staff he believed the entire incident could have been dreamed by him in view of the physical condition he was in at the time.

We conducted extensive investigation in an effort to locate an individual by the name of Clay Bertrand but were unable to do so. Results of our investigation were furnished to the Warren Commission and Andrews was called as a witness before the Commission. In the Warren Commission's report his testimony was noted with emphasis upon the facts tending to show the unlikelihood of his having contact with Lee Harvey Oswald. A review of the records of the Identification Divison disclose no criminal record for Clay Shaw.

Memorandum to Mr. W. C. Sullivan
RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY
62-109060

sent 3-2-67

ACTION:

There is attached a letter to the Honorable Marvin Watson of the White House and to the Attorney General summarizing the facts available in our files concerning Clay Shaw.